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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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CASSANDRA JULIEN,	:	10-CV-5827 (ARR) (LB)
	:	
Plaintiff,	:	<u>NOT FOR PRINT OR</u>
	:	<u>ELECTRONIC</u>
-against-	:	<u>PUBLICATION</u>
	:	
ANDREW CUOMO, Attorney General of the State of	:	<u>MEMORANDUM</u>
New York,	:	<u>AND ORDER</u>
	:	
Defendant.	:	
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ROSS, United States District Judge:

Plaintiff Cassandra Julien filed this pro se action on December 7, 2010. Plaintiff's request to proceed in forma pauperis pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a) is granted. For the reasons discussed below, plaintiff is granted 30 days leave to file an amended complaint.

STANDARD OF REVIEW

In reviewing plaintiff's complaint, the court is mindful that because plaintiff is proceeding pro se, her submission should be held "to less stringent standards than formal pleadings drafted by lawyers." Hughes v. Rowe, 449 U.S. 5, 9 (1980) (citation omitted); Erickson v. Pardus, 551 U.S. 89, 94 (2007); McEachin v. McGuinnis, 357 F.3d 197 (2d Cir. 2004). Under 28 U.S.C. § 1915A, a district court "shall review, before docketing, if feasible or, in any event, as soon as practicable after docketing, a complaint in a civil action in which a prisoner seeks redress from a governmental entity or employee of a governmental entity." 28 U.S.C. § 1915A. Upon review, a district court shall dismiss a prisoner complaint sua sponte if the complaint is "frivolous, malicious, or fails to state a claim upon which relief may be granted; or seeks monetary relief from a defendant who is immune from such relief." Id. § 1915A(b).

However, if a liberal reading of the complaint “gives any indication that a valid claim might be stated,” this court must grant leave to amend the complaint. See Cuoco v. Moritsugu, 222 F.3d 99, 112 (2d Cir. 2000); Gomez v. USAA Fed. Sav. Bank, 171 F.3d 794, 795 (2d Cir. 1999).

DISCUSSION

Plaintiff’s action alleges that various New York Penal Law statutes are unconstitutional, but she offers no facts or allegations to support this claim. The court cannot allow plaintiff’s claims to go forward as defendant will be unable to meaningfully respond to the instant complaint.

Pursuant to Rule 8 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, plaintiff must provide a short, plain statement of claim against each defendant named so that they have adequate notice of the claims against them. Ashcroft v. Iqbal, 129 S.Ct. 1337, 1349 (2009) (Rule 8 “demands more than an unadorned, the-defendant-unlawfully-harmed-me accusation.”). Plaintiff must provide facts sufficient to allow each defendant to have a fair understanding of what the plaintiff is complaining about and to know whether there is a legal basis for recovery. See Simmons v. Abruzzo, 49 F.3d 83, 86 (2d Cir. 1995) (defining “fair notice” as “that which will enable the adverse party to answer and prepare for trial, allow the application of res judicata, and identify the nature of the case so that it may be assigned the proper form of trial.”) (citation and internal quotation marks omitted); Ricciuti v. N.Y.C. Transit Auth., 941 F.2d 119, 123 (2d Cir. 1991).

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, in light of this court’s duty to liberally construe pro se complaints, plaintiff is given 30 days leave to file an amended complaint. See Cruz v. Gomez, 202 F.3d 593 (2d Cir. 2000). Plaintiff is directed that her amended complaint must comply with Rule 8(a) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. Should plaintiff elect to file an amended complaint, she is

directed to name as proper defendants those individuals who have some personal involvement in the actions she alleges in the amended complaint and provide the dates and locations for each relevant event. Even if plaintiff does not know the names of the individuals, she may identify each of them as John Doe or Jane Doe. To the best of her ability, plaintiff must describe each individual and the role he or she played in the alleged deprivation of her rights. In addition, she must set forth the factual allegations to support her claim against each named defendant, the dates and locations of all relevant events, and the relief she is seeking. Plaintiff is further directed to state whether she has a pending state court criminal action, and the current status of those proceedings.

The amended complaint must be captioned as an "Amended Complaint," name all individual defendants in the caption, and bear the same docket number as this order. No summons shall issue at this time, and all further proceedings shall be stayed for 30 days. If plaintiff fails to amend her complaint within 30 days as directed by this order, the court shall dismiss this complaint pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915A. The court certifies pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1915(a)(3) that any appeal from this order would not be taken in good faith; in forma pauperis status is therefore denied for purpose of an appeal. See Coppedge v. United States, 369 U.S. 438, 444-45 (1962).

SO ORDERED.

S/Judge Ross

Allyne R. Ross
United States District Judge

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Dated: December 22, 2010
Brooklyn, New York

Service List

Pro Se Plaintiff:
Cassandra Julien
280 Park Hill Avenue
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Staten Island, NY 10304

cc: Magistrate Judge Lois Bloom